)

In the Claims

Please amend the claims as follows:

- 1. (Original) A conjugate suited for treating prokaryotic infections, comprising the following components:
 - (a) a transport mediator penetrating the prokaryotic cell membrane; and
 - (b) a peptide nucleic acid (PNA) to be introduced into the prokaryote and directed thereagainst, which inhibits the transcription of a prokaryotic gene.
- 2 (Original) The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the prokaryote is a bacterium.
- 3. (Orginal) The conjugate according to claim 2, wherein the bacterium is a bacterium pathogenic for humans.
- 4. (Currently amended) The conjugate according to <u>claim 1</u> any of elaims 1 to 3, wherein the transport mediator is an antibacterial peptide or protein which can penetrate the prokaryotic cell membrane
- 5. (Currently amended) The conjugate according to <u>claim 1</u> any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the transport mediator comprises a phage-holin protein comprising one of the amino acid sequences shown in figure 3 of SEQ ID NOs: 4 to 31 or a fragment or variant thereof, which can penetrate the prokaryotic cell membrane.
- 6 (Currently amended) The conjugate according to <u>claim 1</u> any of claims 1 to 4, wherein the transport mediator comprises a defensin.
- 7. The conjugate according to <u>claim 1</u> any of claims 1 to 6, wherein the peptide nucleic acid (PNA) is directed against a gene giving antibiotic resistance.

- 8 (Original) The conjugate according to claim 7, wherein the antibiotic resistance is a resistance to penicillin, ampicillin, kanamycin or tetracycline.
- (Currently amended) The conjugate according to <u>claim 1</u> any of claims 1-8, which has the following structure:
 transport mediator-spacer-peptide nucleic acid (PNA).
- 10. (Original) The conjugate or conjugate mixture according to claim 9, wherein the spacer is polylysine, polyglycine or poly(glycine/lysine).
- 11. (Currently amended) The conjugate according to claim 9 or 10, wherein the spacer is linked to the transport mediator via a cleavable disulfide bridge.
- 12. (Currently amended) The conjugate according to <u>claim 7</u> any of claims 7 to 11, wherein the peptide nucleic acid comprises the sequence H₂N-ATTGTTAGATTTCAT-COOH (SEQ ID NO:1).
- 13. (Currently amended) A medicament containing comprising a conjugate according to any of claims 1-12 the conjugate according to claim 1.
- 14. (Original) The medicament according to claim 13, further comprising at least one antibiotic for which the prokaryote was re-sensitized by administering the conjugate.
- 15. (Currently amended) A method for treating a prokaryotic infection comprising the step of administering the conjugate according to claim 1 Use of a conjugate according to any of claims 1 to 12 or the composition defined in claim 14 for treating a prokaryotic infection.
- 16. (Currently amended) Use The method according to claim 15, wherein the prokaryotic infection is caused by a prokaryote which is resistant to at least one antibiotic.
- 17. (New) The method according to claim 16, wherein further at least one antibiotic for which the prokaryote was re-sensitized by administering the conjugate is administered.

- 18. (New) The conjugate according to claim 1, wherein the peptide nucleic acid is linked to the transport mediator by a covalent chemical bond.
- 19. (New) The conjugate according to claim 10, wherein the spacer is linked to the transport mediator via a cleavable disulfide bridge.